

Fayette County FRN Community Meeting Thursday February 22, 2024



Working together for children and families

In Attendance: Miranda Maddox, Melissa Lilly, Stormy Murphy, Amanda Williams, Charles Taylor, Mystik Miller, Melissa Blake, Alice James, Sue Wood, Kiara Mickey, Keith Bowling, Tammy Fleshman, Heather Green, Belinda Hopkins, Monica Kern, Katie Janney, Katie Johnson, Marion Tanner, Angel Sheehan, Diane Landy, Melissa Hodge, Rochelle Schlusser, Lennie Church, Shelby Holt, Leana Paxson, Amanda Withrow, Josh Ashbury, and Diane Callison.

The meeting of the Fayette County Family Resource Network was held on: Thursday, February 22, 2024 at the Fayette County DHHR. The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm. Number present for the meeting was 28.

Welcome and Introductions

- **Previous Meeting Notes:** There were no changes made to the January meeting notes prior to today's meeting

REPORTS:

- **Fayette FRN Director's Report** – Diane Callison, fayettefrn@gmail.com
 - Upcoming meeting schedule
 - We do have an opening for the May 23rd meeting. If anyone is interested in presenting and providing lunch that day, please let me know.
 - The April FRN meeting will be a grand opening/ribbon cutting of the new office in Oak Hill. A flyer will be made available soon, the event will be from 11-2 with a data walk from the ICE collaborative happening at noon.
 - Teen Court
 - We are hosting a hearing on Monday February 26th and we'll hear 3 cases involving students vaping at school.
 - Next Friday, March 1st we'll be taking 8 youth volunteers to the Capitol to participate in the page program
 - If you know a youth grade 7th through 12th that would like to volunteer, we are always accepting applications. the online application is here: <https://forms.gle/ZGgZPeciUjMXBFwE8>
 - The FRN has received a 3rd year for our Basic Needs Fulfillment program. This funding comes from a grant through The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation with the goal to provide Fayette County residents with basic needs items. These items can include beds, dressers, clothing, and household items. This funding cannot assist with any type of bills or housing assistance. For our 3rd year, we received \$26,000
 - The referral form is here: <https://forms.gle/R6syBhyt8YKFcmvZ8>
 - We've received 29 referrals have fulfilled 17, with 10 still waiting review
 - As always, I send weekly update emails every Monday for the information I receive the week prior. These updates include funding or grant opportunities as well. And if you ever want information included in these updates please let me know or if any events are coming up. Any time sensitive information will be sent through a normal email to the listserv which currently has 254 people.

PRESENTATION:

- **Healthy Grandfamilies** – Melissa Lilly
 - The healthy grandfamilies program is operated through West Virginia State University in partnership with their social work department and the extension service.
 - The background stems from 3rd and 4th year social work students conducting need assessments for kinship families and finding there were greater needs than could be accomplished in a one on one needs assessment.
 - The curriculum was modeled after a PSTA program out of Massachusetts.
 - The curriculum was piloted in 2015 for Kanawha County on the WVSU campus, after that program they began expanding to the surrounding counties of Putnam, Cabell, Clay and Fayette.
 - The department has 3 full time staff and 4 students within the social work program.
 - Some of the topics covered within the curriculum include: communication, technology/social media, trauma informed care, navigating the school system, navigating the legal system, and family response to addiction.
 - Along with the weekly curriculum topics, participants form support groups and realize that they are not the only ones within this situation.
 - Last year, the program saw 50/50 rate of grandparents and great grandparents raising children.
 - The program is also available for kinship families, whether it is an aunt/uncle or just another relative.
 - There are opportunities for the program to provide direct service in the form of clothes, bills, car/home repairs. These services may only be available to grandparents.
 - There is a coalition in all 55 counties within WV. Realistically, 47 programs are up and running.
 - Anyone can enroll through the state website and based on need, coalitions can determine a site location.
 - To date, the program has had over 1500 graduates.

Melissa Lilly, Director
Center for Healthy Grandfamilies
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Institute, WV 25112
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healthygrandfamilies.com

OPEN DISCUSSION / ROUND TABLE:

Name and Organization Contact Information	Updates
Diane Landy – WIC Diane.m.landy@wv.gov	WIC is celebrating 50 years and we are collecting WIC stories from parents and/or children. A flyer is attached.
Marion Tanner – Read Aloud mgtanner@suddenlink.net	The Early Childhood Literacy committee is meeting on March 11 th at 3:30pm at Rosedale Elementary to unpack and organize books for a book distribution we'll host a Fayetteville PK-8.
Katie Johnson – ICE Collaborative Katie.johnson@fayettehealth.org	The ICE Collaborative just finished our 5 th year of surveys and this data that is collected helps us focus our efforts. We also utilize this data to write for grants.
Keith Bowling – AETNA bowlingg@aetna.com	If someone lost their Medicaid coverage during the redetermination, they can contact WV Navigator at 1-844-WVCARES and they will help them find what insurance works best for their needs.

	We are piloting a PYX health app for people to get connected to licensed counselors. The app is free and if the counselor sees a need for further actions, they can link the individual right to a case manager at AETNA. A flyer is attached.
Heather Green – Community Connections Heather.green@strongcommunities.org	State PFS Coordinator covering Fayette, McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh, and Wyoming Counties, we are focused on reducing Marijuana, Alcohol and IV drugs for ages 9-20 years old. If anyone is needing resources, evidence-based programming, swag or events to set up a table, please reach out!
Belinda Hopkins – AWAY Bhopkins.awaywv@gmail.com	AWAY covers Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas and Summers. I cover Fayette as the Domestic Violence Victim Advocate. Our services are free and confidential. The brochure that was passed out at the last meeting had the wrong website, Belinda has new brochures for those who need them.
Sue Wood – Drug Free Communities fayettefpc@gmail.com	<p>What is the Drug Free Communities? - Goals - Community Collaboration in the Fayette Prevention Coalition and to reduce substance use of Alcohol and Tobacco in middle and High school students</p> <p>The Fayette Prevention Coalition is meeting next Tuesday, February 27th at Noon at Whipple Annex in Scarbro.</p> <p>We can offer resources and information on how parents can talk with their children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. We can offer drug disposal bags and medicine lock boxes to grand families or any other audience who may need them, please reach out!</p> <p>April is Alcohol Awareness month, we'll be looking for social media ideas, if you have any please let us know!</p>
Melissa Blake – DHHR Melissa.r.blake@wv.gov	LIEAP will be accepting applications for new recipients or those who missed the January deadline starting on Monday, February 26 th . No date has been set for Emergency LIEAP.
Mystik Miller – Wild institute Mystik@aceraft.com	We are a new program out of ACE Adventure Resort and we'll be looking to meet new partners and see how we can collaborate together!
Stormy Murphy – Children's Home Society smurphy@childhswv.org	<p>We are in desperate need for foster parents, Mission WV has the list of all foster care agencies within the state.</p> <p>We have a resource room available at our Summersville location with donated items like children clothing and others.</p> <p>We have a bass fishing tournament coming up in May, a flyer is attached.</p> <p>Starting April 1st, GoMart is partnering with Little Debbie for when every 2 honey buns are sold, they will donate a dollar to Children's Home Society.</p>
Amanda Withrow – Drug Free Communities fayettedfc@gmail.com	I have bookmarks with 988 information and posters about talking to your children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

	We are partnering with OHHS on March 11 th for a Bingo night for alcohol awareness. A flyer is attached.
Shelby Holt – Fayette FRN fayetteyouthpfs@gmail.com	<p>Adventure Fayette County is planning for Project Adventure on April 25th and 26th. We bring all the 4th and 5th graders in Fayette County to the Fayette County Park to introduce them to activities that are available in the area. We are looking for presenters and volunteers. A flyer is attached.</p> <p>We will be offering Camp SOAR again this year! Available for 9-12 years old's, a half day camp at the Fayette County Park. 8 weeks are available from June 3rd to August 2nd. Scholarships are available and sign ups will begin soon.</p>
Lennie Church – Mountain Heart Community Services Deborah.l.church@wv.gov	<p>It's national children's health month and we've been giving out toothbrushes to our participants.</p> <p>There will be an Easter event on March 23rd from 11-1 at the SALS location in Beards Folk. A flyer is attached.</p>

~ THE NEXT FAYETTE COUNTY FRN MEETING ~
Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 11:30am
Workforce – 200 New River Town Center, Beckley WV
Quarterly Alliance meeting with Raleigh County FRN

Questions, comments, and concerns can be addressed to Diane Callison, Director for the Fayette County FRN at 304-575-1428 or fayettefrn@gmail.com

Submitted – DMC 2/23/2024